

"Portrait of San Francisco," the second exhibit, is sponsored by the San Francisco *Examiner* and is being prepared by Naval Reserve Photographic Squadron VPP 876, Oakland Naval Air Station. It may be seen in Lovell White Hall adjacent to the *Examiner* Photo Museum, beginning May 13.

The salon showing will consist of a series of aerial photographs built around a twelve-foot mosaic of San Francisco. All of the photographs were shot especially for this show on training missions by the "Weekend Warriors."

RAYMOND SMITH DIES

RAYMOND L. SMITH, for decades a familiar figure to visitors to the Academy in his capacity of gallery attendant and guide-lecturer, died April 25.

Mr. Smith was born in San Francisco July 3, 1898, and was educated in the local public schools. He almost grew up at the Academy, for in high school he came under the influence of Dr. Roy E. Dickerson, then a teacher at Mission High School while also serving as curator of the Academy's Department of Paleontology. Mr. Smith was one of several of Dr. Dickerson's students who were later employed by the Academy.

He was well read and observant, and became widely informed in the natural sciences. He also had an amazing knowledge of San Francisco history. Visitors to the Academy's public halls found him a mine of information.

He was intensely loyal to the Academy and proud of his association with it. Members of the Academy's staff feel his death as a personal loss.

ACADEMY ACCEPTS PAINTINGS

THE ACADEMY has accepted three paintings from Dr. Henry T. Taabor of San Francisco. The pastels were painted by Dr. Taabor while he was on a recent three-month trip to Eastern Peru, Guatemala, and Ecuador.

Dr. Taabor also presented the Department of Entomology with a collection of about 125 moths and butterflies from the western Amazon basin.

ASTRONOMY SECTION

THE NEXT MEETING of the Astronomy Section will be at 8 P. M., May 25. Leon Salanave will show Kodachromes and report on a test of the astronomical seeing from Junipero Serra Peak.

NEW MEMBERS

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS were elected by the Council at its meeting of April 12, 1955:

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Miss Patricia D. Brizee
Mr. Hector I. Burness
Miss Margaret C. Irwin
Dr. George M. Jemison
Mr. Floyd E. Jennings
Mrs. Betty J. Johnson
Mr. James J. Kilcommon
Dr. Robert L. Livezey
Mrs. Marie E. McKee
Mr. William Riesener

Mr. E. V. Roberts
Miss Evelyn Rutherford
Miss Joan Sischo
Mr. W. Sykes
Mr. Frederick T. Weiss

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Sanford Byers

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Wilson Meyer

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Photo by Edward S. Ross

TYPGRAPHICAL ERROR?

Dr. Ross says this eighty-eight butterfly is a misprint, or perhaps it has learned to add!

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May Announcement

THE REGULAR MAY MEETING will be held at 8:15 P. M., Tuesday, May 17, in the May Treat Morrison Auditorium. Dr. Edward S. Ross, curator, Department of Entomology, will present an illustrated lecture:

“THE ANDES CLOSE UP”

The lecture will cover the highlights of the South American trip from which Dr. Ross has just returned. Dr. Ross runs out of superlatives when he attempts to describe the insects he found during his eight-month trek through mountains, desert, and jungle. Instead, he invites you to see them for yourselves through the Kodachrome slides he has brought back. In addition you will see South American frogs and snakes, jungle flowers riotous in color, and scenery to rival our own Yosemite. Ross also photographed the people that he met: red-painted Indians, a missionary holding a boa constrictor by the tail—and even American experts from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Research.

The expedition was made possible by a 1954 fellowship granted to Dr. Ross by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation. He was accompanied by his wife and entomologist Evert I. Schlinger, a graduate student from the Davis campus of the University of California. The trio made their headquarters near the town of Tingo Maria, in the eastern Andean ranges of Peru. However, they made numerous side trips, and before taking ship for home they traveled up the desert side of Peru through Ecuador into Colombia. The box score for the expedition was 100,000 insects collected; 10,000 pictures taken, 3,000 of them in color.

The insect specimens are being incorporated in the Academy's collections, and the pictures will be channeled into books and articles at both the technical and popular level. Dr. Ross says also that he hopes to make duplicates of the color transparencies available to school systems as visual aids to the teaching of entomology.

CLOCK COLLECTORS MEET HERE

CALIFORNIA HOROLOGISTS gathered at the Academy Saturday, April 30, at a joint meeting of the San Francisco and Los Angeles chapters of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors. The roster of speakers included Dr. William Barclay Stephens, president of the San Francisco Chapter and the Academy's honorary curator of horology.

Dr. Stephens will attend the meeting of the National Association in Washington, D. C., May 18, 19, and 20. He will give a talk on the Wenzel Air Clock

at a session to be held at the Smithsonian Institution. It would be impossible to find a better qualified speaker for this subject or a more appropriate location for the discussion. There are only four Wenzel Air Clocks in existence today—Dr. Stephens has three of them, and the Smithsonian the remaining one. More than four of these unique San Francisco-made clocks were built, but to the best of Dr. Stephens' knowledge all of the rest perished in the fire of 1906.

Dr. Stephens is vice-president emeritus of the National Association, which currently lists some 2,000 members. An article in the April 16 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* featured the activities of clock and watch collectors and described the more important collections in the country, including the Stephens collection here.

SOUND ADVICE, HERALD

DR. EARL S. HERALD of Steinhart Aquarium has a problem involving his automobile that has him stumped. He doesn't even know where to turn for help. But he certainly won't seek any aid at the Tyee Club, where he spoke April 26 on handling animals *with safety* on television.

Dr. Herald illustrated his lecture with the Aquarium's eight-foot boa constrictor. At the conclusion of the talk, he put the boa in a sack stating, "Always inspect a sack for holes before putting a snake into it."

Next morning he discovered his remark was considerably more apropos than he had intended. The sack, which he left on the back seat of his car during the night, was empty. Plainly visible in the bottom of it was a large hole. Without success the Herald family searched the car, garage, and the yard.

If a passenger in the Herald automobile the next day hadn't inexplicably vaulted from the front seat to the back, the snake's whereabouts might not have been discovered for weeks. By peering up under the dash Herald could see the snake had taken up residence on top of the glove box. And it demonstrated a willingness to challenge anyone who wanted to dispute its right to live there.

Naturally, a number of staff members have offered helpful advice. Someone suggested turning the heater on—but boas love heat; it reminds them of home. Cold air was blown into the car—all it produced was a state of torpor. Waiting until the snake got hungry and then luring it out seemed like a good plan, but then someone remembered the snake once went 18 months without eating. Meanwhile Herald rides alone.

In Dr. Herald's defense it should be said that he didn't pick out the sack. Robert Dempster did. Bob hasn't been seen for a couple of days; it's reported he is looking for a darning needle.

TWO PHOTO EXHIBITS OPEN

TWO OUTSTANDING photo exhibits will go on display at the Academy this month. They are "This Is the American Earth" and "Portrait of San Francisco."

The first exhibit is the work of Ansel Adams, with the text by Nancy Newhall. It portrays Conservation in its major aspects, with emphasis on the National Parks and Wilderness areas. The stunning series of photographs—both old and contemporary, and from a wide variety of sources—will be on display from May 6 through June 5. The exhibit is presented jointly by the Sierra Club and the Academy.